

Environmental

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California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Los Angeles Region

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April 28, 2004

Technical Steering Committee c/o Masahiro Dojiri Environmental Monitoring Division Bureau of Sanitation City of Los Angeles 12000 Vista del Mar Playa del Rey, CA 90293

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED "SANTA MONICA BAY BEACHES BACTERIAL TMDLS COORDINATED SHORELINE MONITORING PLAN" (DATED APRIL 7, 2004)

Dear Technical Steering Committee:

I commend the Technical Steering Committee for its work to coordinate the efforts of responsible jurisdictions and agencies under the Santa Monica Bay Beaches Bacteria TMDLs in order to meet one of the first compliance deadlines. TMDLs will be most successful when responsible agencies are willing to work cooperatively, thus benefiting from sharing knowledge and resources towards achieving a common goal of improving water quality. The Santa Monica Bay Beaches TMDLs (SMBBB TMDLs) have from the beginning been an excellent example of such cooperation and I am pleased to see this model continue as we move from TMDL development to monitoring and implementation.

I also want to thank the Technical Steering Committee for inviting Regional Board staff to actively participate in the committee's meetings in order to provide early feedback on the proposed Coordinated Shoreline Monitoring Plan (CMP). We appreciate the opportunity for dialogue that this provides and, clearly, it results in a smoother final approval process.

This letter represents my approval of the CMP [April 7, 2004 version]. This version incorporates Regional Board staff comments on the November 12, 2003 version [conveyed in a letter dated January 8, 2004] and subsequent Regional Board staff comments on the February 17, 2004 version [conveyed via e-mail on March 8, 2004].

As discussed with Regional Board staff in committee meetings, monitoring under the approved CMP must begin as soon as possible and no later than November 1, 2004. The Technical Advisory Committee must submit monthly progress reports to Regional Board staff on the status of the Memoranda of Understanding with the City of Los Angeles or on contracts with other laboratories. Should Regional Board staff determine that reasonable progress is not being made, responsible jurisdictions and agencies may be required to begin monitoring prior to November 1, 2004.

California Environmental Protection Agency

If you have any questions regarding these comments, please do not hesitate to contact Renee DeShazo at (213) 576-6783 or rdeshazo@rb4.swrcb.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Dennis A. Dickerson

Executive Officer